

REMARKS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 14-16 and 18-27 are pending in this application. Claims 14-16, 18-21, 25, and 26 are allowed. Claims 22-24 and 27 are hereby cancelled without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents.

Claim 27 was objected to under 37 C.F.R. §1.75(c) as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Claim 27 is hereby cancelled, thereby obviating the claim objection.

II. THE REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 22-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,098,614 to Ray ("Ray").

Claim 27 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Ray in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2005/0258401 A1 to Lane et al. ("Lane").

Claims 22-24 and 27 are hereby cancelled without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents.

Accordingly, the present application is now in condition for allowance.

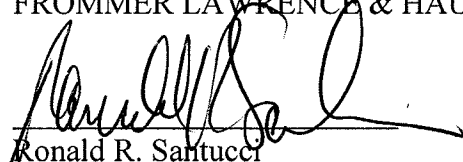
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that the present application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants' attorneys respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Please charge any fees incurred by reason of this response and not paid herewith to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,
FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP

By:


Ronald R. Santucci
Reg. No. 28,988
Ph: (212) 588-0800
Fax: (212) 588-0500